

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended): A method of associating an electronic signature with an
- 2 electronic record in a computer system, the method comprising:
 - 3 receiving first ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining an
 - 4 event that, upon occurrence, generates an electronic record that requires an electronic signature
 - 5 ~~from data intercepted from a database transaction;~~
 - 6 receiving second ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining
 - 7 one or more fields stored in the electronic record;
 - 8 receiving third ~~user input to generate a map that~~ information from a user interface
 - 9 ~~that maps data from underlying database tables to at least some of the fields defined for the~~
 - 10 electronic record;
 - 11 receiving fourth ~~user input to define~~ information from a user interface defining a
 - 12 layout for displaying data in the electronic record on a computer display when an electronic
 - 13 signature for the electronic record is collected;
 - 14 receiving fifth ~~user input to identify~~ information from a user interface identifying
 - 15 a signatory approver for the electronic record;
 - 16 in response to the occurrence of the event, generating the electronic record ~~from~~
 - 17 ~~data intercepted from the database transaction~~ and displaying the electronic record to the
 - 18 signatory approver according to the defined layout;
 - 19 receiving an electronic signature from the signatory approver; and
 - 20 generating sixth information associating the electronic signature with the
 - 21 electronic record ~~prior to committing the database transaction to a database.~~

1 2. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising verifying the electronic
2 signature prior to associating the electronic signature with the electronic record.

1 3. (Previously presented): The method of claim 2 wherein associating the
2 electronic signature with the electronic record comprise associating the electronic signature with
3 the electronic record in response to a positive verification of the electronic signature.

1 4. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic signature comprises
2 a user id and a password.

1 5. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising verifying the electronic
2 signature and storing the electronic record in a common repository of electronic records that are
3 generated from multiple data sources.

1 6. (Original): The method of claim 5 wherein the electronic record comprises
2 unstructured data in a character large object (CLOB) format.

1 7. (Original): The method of claim 6 wherein the common repository is a
2 database and wherein the unstructured data is a well-formed XML document stored within a
3 column of a table stored in the database.

1 8. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 when execution of a rule results in a determination that an electronic signature is
3 required, displaying data from the electronic record on a computer display.

1 9. (Currently amended): A computer system that manages electronic records
2 stored in a database, the computer system comprising:
3 a processor;
4 a database; and
5 a computer-readable memory coupled to the processor, the computer-readable
6 memory configured to store a computer program;

7 wherein the processor is operative with the computer program to:

8 (i) receive first ~~user input to define information from a user interface defining~~
9 an event that, upon occurrence, generates an electronic record that requires an electronic
10 signature ~~from data intercepted from a database transaction~~;

11 (ii) receive second ~~user input to define the information from a user interface~~
12 defining one or more fields stored in the electronic record;

13 (iii) receive third ~~user input to generate a map information from a user~~
14 interface that maps data from underlying database tables to at least some of the fields
15 defined for the electronic record;

16 (iv) receive fourth ~~user input to define information from a user interface~~
17 defining a layout for displaying data in the electronic record on a computer display when
18 an electronic signature for the electronic record is collected;

19 (v) receive fifth ~~user input to identify information from a user interface~~
20 identifying a signatory approver for the electronic record;

21 (vi) generate the electronic record ~~from data intercepted from the database~~
22 transaction and display the electronic record to the signatory approver according to the
23 defined layout in response to the occurrence of the event;

24 (vii) receive an electronic signature from the signatory approver; and

25 (viii) generate sixth information that associates the electronic signature with the
26 electronic record prior to committing the database transaction to the database.

1 10. (Original): The computer system of claim 9 wherein processor is further
2 operative to verify the electronic signature.

1 11. (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 10 wherein processor
2 is operative to associate the electronic signature with the electronic record in response to a
3 positive verification of the electronic signature.

1 12. (Original): The computer system of claim 9 wherein the electronic signature
2 comprises a user id and a password.

1 13. (Original): The computer system of claim 12 wherein the processor is further
2 operative to verify the electronic signature and store the electronic record in a common
3 repository of electronic records that are generated from multiple data sources.

1 14. (Original): The computer system of claim 13 wherein the electronic record
2 comprises unstructured data in a character large object (CLOB) format.

1 15. (Original): The computer system of claim 14 wherein the common repository
2 is a database and wherein the unstructured data is a well-formed XML document stored within a
3 column of a table stored in the database.

1 16. (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 9 wherein the
2 processor is further operative to display data from the electronic record on a computer display
3 when execution of a rule results in a determination that an electronic signature is required.

1 17. (Currently amended): A computer program product having a computer-
2 readable storage medium storing a set of code modules which when executed by a processor of a
3 computer system cause the processor to manage electronic records stored in a database, the
4 computer program product comprising:

5 code for receiving first ~~user input to define information from a user interface~~
6 ~~defining~~ an event that, upon occurrence, generates an electronic record that requires an electronic
7 ~~signature from data intercepted from a database transaction;~~

8 code for receiving second ~~user input to define the information from a user~~
9 ~~interface defining one or more~~ fields stored in the electronic record;

10 code for receiving third ~~user input to generate a map information from a user~~
11 ~~interface~~ that maps data from underlying database tables to at least some of the fields defined for
12 the electronic record;

13 code for receiving fourth ~~user input to define information from a user interface~~
14 ~~defining~~ a layout for displaying data in the electronic record on a computer display when an
15 electronic signature for the electronic record is collected;
16 code for receiving fifth ~~user input to identify information from a user interface~~
17 ~~identifying~~ a signatory approver for the electronic record;
18 code for, in response to the occurrence of the event, generating the electronic
19 record ~~from data intercepted from the database transaction~~ and displaying the electronic record to
20 the signatory approver according to the defined layout;
21 code for receiving an electronic signature from the signatory approver; and
22 code for ~~generating sixth information~~ associating the electronic signature with the
23 electronic record ~~prior to committing the database transaction to a database.~~

1 18. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 17 further
2 comprising code for verifying the electronic signature.

1 19. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 18 wherein
2 the electronic signature comprises a user id and a password.

1 20. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 18 further
2 comprising code for storing the electronic record in a common repository of electronic records
3 that are generated from multiple data sources.

1 21. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 20 wherein
2 the electronic record comprises unstructured data in a character large object (CLOB) format.

1 22. (Previously presented): The computer program product of claim 21 wherein
2 the common repository is a database and wherein the unstructured data is a well-formed XML
3 document stored within a column of a table stored in the database.